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## PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: A-68718-4/RFT/RMS/RMK

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: ) Examiner: Not Yet Known  
BLACKBURN, et al. ) ) Group Art Unit: 1744 REC  
Serial No.: 09/993,342 ) ) JUL 1  
Filed: November 5, 2001 ) ) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
For: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR ) ) OFFICE OF  
BIOCHIP MULTIPLEXING ) )  
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Signed: Monica Carlos  
Monica E. Carlos

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Missing Parts  
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

### In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This application claims the benefit of the priority date U.S.S.N. 60/145,840, filed November 3, 2000. This application is a continuing application of U.S.S.N. 09/295,691, filed April 21, 1999, U.S.S.N. 09/904,175, filed July 11, 2001, U.S.S.N. 09/760,384, filed 1/11/2001, U.S.S.N. 60/175,539, filed January 11, 2000, and PCT application US01/01150, filed January 11, 2001. --

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-12 without prejudice or disclaimer.